

"Extras"

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. PARADE OF SHOPS - DAY

RON, a thick set man in his forties, approaches a door next to a confectionery shop in a parade of small shops. A telephone box in view close by in line with the door. He looks around suspiciously before ringing the bell.

Ron opens the door to the stairway.

INT. STAIRWAY - DAY

Ron walks up the stairs, slowly.

Ron reaches the top of the stairs.

INT. DAWN'S KITCHEN - DAY

DAWN in her forties, sits at a kitchen table, looking at her purse. She takes three £5 notes out. She opens up a tin money box split into sections. She runs her hands through her hair, worried.

INT. STAIRWAY - DAY

A blonde HOOKER in her thirties, wearing a mini-skirt and blouse opens the door.

INT. DAWN'S KITCHEN - DAY

Dawn sits in the same position, looking at the contents of the tin. Tears in her eyes.

INT. THE HOOKER'S FLAT - DAY

Sparsely furnished. A double bed, and not much else. Ron watches the Hooker intently as she takes off her blouse, down to her bra, and then her skirt, down to her underwear. A beat. Ron takes off a leather jacket, exposing a white shirt.

INT. DAWN'S KITCHEN - DAY

Dawn sits deep in thought. Sound of a door opening.

DAWN
(calls out)
Is that you, Ron?

Dawn takes £5 from one of the sections of the money box and puts it in her purse quickly, just as JESSIE enters. Fourteen years old, an attractive girl with long blonde hair, wearing a school uniform.

JESSIE
No, it's me.

DAWN
Hi, love. How was school?

JESSIE
Okay.

Jessie notices how upset her Mum looks.

JESSIE
You all right?

DAWN
(managing a smile)
Yes. Of course.

Dawn puts out a hand and touches Jessie's hand, as Jessie reaches the table.

JESSIE
(carefully)
You got the last installment for
the trip, Mum?

Jessie sits down opposite. Dawn hands Jessie £20 from her purse.

DAWN
Here.

JESSIE
Thanks, Mum.

Jessie leans across and kisses her Mother.

INT. THE HOOKER'S FLAT - DAY

Ron takes a £50 note out of his wallet, as the hooker does up the final buttons of her blouse, and hands it to her via an extended arm.

INT. DAWN'S KITCHEN - DAY

Jessie sits at the table with Dawn.

JESSIE
Mum, I'll need some spending
money, too.

DAWN
Okay.

JESSIE
£150. Is that all right?

DAWN
Sure.

JESSIE
I mean if it's too much...

DAWN
(nervously)
No, I...

JESSIE
I could make do with a £100.

DAWN
No, that should be all right.

JESSIE
(almost apologetic)
That's what the other girls are
taking. But...

DAWN
(touching Jessie's hand)
Don't worry.
(a beat)
I'll speak to your Dad. I'm sure
it'll be all right.

JESSIE
Thanks, Mum.

Jessie stands up.

JESSIE
Love you.

DAWN
Love you.

Jessie kisses Dawn and walks to the door.

JESSIE
Where's Dad?

DAWN
Working late, I expect.

EXT. PARADE OF SHOPS - DAY

Ron closes the door to the stairway and walks away.

INT. DAWN'S LOUNGE - NIGHT

Dawn puts a meal on a small table in front of the TV.

BATHROOM

Ron looks at himself in the mirror.

LOUNGE

Ron sits eating a meal, watching football on TV.

DAWN
Do I get any more money this
month, Ron?

RON
(facing the screen)
You'll have to make do. I can't
afford to give you any more.

DAWN
I had to make do last month.

RON
(sharply)
You'll have to make do this month,
as well, then, won't you?

DAWN
(a beat, carefully)
What about Jessie's money for her
school trip to France?

RON
I gave you enough for her trip
two months ago.

DAWN
You gave me two hundred quid less
last month.
(a beat)
Ron...

RON
I'm trying to watch this game.
Give it a rest will you?

EXT. A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL - DAY

Jessie leaves the playground, with a group of THREE SCHOOLGIRLS.

EXT. CAFE - DAY

Establish a greasy spoon cafe. The girls enter the cafe.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Jessie sits drinking cokes with the girls. She faces the window.

EXT. CAFE - DAY

Ron approaches the cafe.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Jessie sees Ron walk past the cafe. She stands up immediately.

JESSIE

Gotta go.

SCHOOLGIRL

It's your turn to pay for the cokes.

Jessie struggles to find her purse.

JESSIE

(frantic)

Can't I give it to you later? My Dad's just gone by and I want to see him about something.

SCHOOLGIRL

None of us have got any money

(to the other girls)

Have we girls?

The girls giggle.

DAWN (O.S.)
Cutting back. Mr Rashid said he
doesn't need three checkout girls
any more. I was the last one
there, so they're getting rid of me.

DAWN'S BEDROOM

RON
You'll get another job.

DAWN
I don't know so much.
(a beat)
Ron...

RON
What?

DAWN
Jessie needs some spending money
for her holiday.

UPSTAIRS LANDING

Jessie listens at the door.

DAWN (O.S.)
Ron, did you hear me? I said
Jessie needs some spending money.
I don't want to let her down.
We're a family and I don't want
to let her down.

EXT. DAWN'S HOUSE - DAY

A MILKMAN puts milk on the step.

INT. DAWN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Dawn, wearing a dressing gown, butters toast. Jessie
enters holding two bottles of milk.

JESSIE
Morning Mum.

DAWN
(jumps)
Oh, you scared the life out of me.

Jessie puts the milk on the work top.

JESSIE
Sorry.

Jessie pulls Dawn round and hugs her very hard.

DAWN
(overcome)
What's this for?

JESSIE
Love you so much, Mum.

DAWN
(smiling)
Nearly broke my ribs.

Jessie breaks.

DAWN
Grip like a grizzly bear.
(looks lovingly at Jessie)
I love you, too. Very much.

JESSIE
I'll Hoover for you. Okay? And
do the washing and hang it out.

DAWN
You don't have to do that.

JESSIE
I want to. I really do. I want
to do something, to help.

The toast pops up. Dawn turns away. Jessie kisses her on the neck

JESSIE
You're the best Mum in the world.

Jessie leaves quickly. Dawn turns, pleasantly surprised.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Jessie sits on her own, looking at photos of the family on the beach.

INSERT PHOTO of Dawn, Ron and Jessie, when Jessie is five years old.

Jessie smiles reflectively. The sound of a man and a woman arguing. Jessie looks up and sees a MIDDLE AGED COUPLE sitting at a table across the aisle arguing.

INT. LOUNGE - NIGHT

Ron sits watching TV, eating a meal from the small table as before. Jessie enters, wearing school uniform. She sits next to him. A beat.

JESSIE
What're you watching?

RON
(not facing her)
Wildlife programme. What does it look like?

A beat.

JESSIE
Did Mum mention about the money for my holiday?

RON
She did. Yeah.

JESSIE
Is it okay, Dad?
(a beat)
Dad, did you hear what I...

RON
(overlapping)
I heard what you said.
(a beat)
Your Mother'll sort it out. Speak to her about it.
(a beat)
I'm watching this.

Jessie stands up.

INT. STAIRWAY - DAY

Ron walks up the stairs, slowly.

Ron reaches the top of the stairs.

Ron stands by the door. The Hooker opens the door to him.

INT. CAFE - DAY

Jessie sits on her own, deep in thought.

Her three girlfriends sit at a table in front of her, each parading theirs wads of £20 notes.

INT. DAWN'S HOUSE - LOUNGE - DAY

Jessie vacuums the carpet.

KITCHEN

Dawn loads white sheets in the washing machine. Jessie enters, breathless.

JESSIE

Mum I said I'd do the washing.

Dawn turns, startled.

DAWN

Oh. Jessie.

(a beat)

Sorry. Completely forgot love.

Dawn puts Ron's white shirt in the washing machine.

JESSIE

I'll do the ironing then. Okay?

DAWN

Okay.

Jessie puts her arms around Dawn.

JESSIE

Mum...

DAWN

Yes love?

JESSIE

Don't worry about the rest of the money for the holiday.

DAWN

Why?

JESSIE

I'll get a job, or something.
Work in the school cafe.

DAWN

(touches Jessie's hair)

You don't have to do that.

JESSIE

I don't want you to have to worry about it.

DAWN

I'm not worrying about it.

Ron reaches the top of the stairs.

The door opens. Jessie stands wearing a mini skirt and blouse, her lips daubed in lipstick.

JESSIE

Hello, Dad.

RON

What do you think you're doing?

JESSIE

Earning money, Dad. For my holiday. For spending money. For extras.

RON

Get out of those clothes. You're my daughter.

Jessie closes the door. Ron bangs on it.

RON

Jessie, open this door. What do you think you're playing at? You're my daughter. Open this door. Jessie...Jessie...

Ron walks down the stairs, slowly. He reaches the door and opens the door.

EXT. PARADE OF SHOPS - DAY

Ron comes out of the door. Dawn faces him. They look at each other. Their eyes meet.

FADE OUT:

THE END